

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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) Group Art Unit: 3643
)) Franciscon Dichard T. Duice In
) Examiner: Richard T. Price Jr.)

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

NOV 1 3 2003 GROUP 3600

Dear Sir:

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

In response to the Office Action dated October 7, 2003, applicant respectfully traverses the restriction requirement that the invention set forth in claims 1-14 represent a separate invention from that set forth in claims 15-18 and requests reconsideration. As required by Patent Rule 1.143, applicant provisionally elects to prosecute claims 1-14 corresponding to Group I, with traverse.

Remarks in connection with this Response begin at page 2 of this paper.